

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Various amendments have been made to independent claims 5 and 19. These amendments place these claims into statutory subject matter, as the various recited operations are performed by various structures and circuits of a computer system. Thus these claims are tied to a specific machine and as such, the rejection under §101 is overcome.

Claim 5 recites in part that modified tasks are received in response to an operation initiated by a task extractor. It is further recited that these modified tasks are extracted from a document using a first circuit of the task extractor, and when a task is synchronized by updating a task repository, it is done using a second circuit of a task synchronizer. The art including Kent fails to teach or suggest this subject matter. First, Kent fails to teach that receipt of modified tasks is responsive to an operation initiated by a task extractor. Instead, in Kent, updates are simply performed by a user updating a given list appropriately. Furthermore, Kent is silent with regard to any circuitry to perform its operations. Instead in Kent, all that is taught is a web-based service referred to as Windows Share Point Services. Accordingly, claim 5 and the claims depending therefrom are patentable over the cited art.

With regard to claim 19, in addition to the above reasons the art including Kent further fails to teach that an individual task repository that is associated with a task owner is also updated with a modified task. Further, claim 19 recites that this modified task is visible to the task owner but not to other task owners. Kent is silent in this regard also. Instead, Kent simply teaches that Share Point lists can be updated by a user. Accordingly, for this further reason claim 19 and the claims depending therefrom are patentable over the cited art.

New dependent claims 22-29 are patentable for at least the same reason as the independent claims from which they depend.

In view of these remarks, the application is now in condition for allowance and the Examiner's prompt action in accordance therewith is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504.

Respectfully submitted,

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